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SOME REMARKS

Upon a late Paper, Entituled,

*An Argument, shewing, that
a Standing Army is In-
consistent with a free Go-
vernment, and absolutely
destructive to the Constitu-
tion of the English Mo-
narchy.*

Latin to Him's no more difficult,
Than to a Black-Bird 'tis to Whistle,
So Learn'd---that he can in Dispute
Confute,---Change Hands, and still Confute.

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S O M E

R E M A R K S, &c.

I Have sometimes heard from the Pulpit, That the Church of *England* is Crucified between Two Thieves, the Papists on the one hand, and the Presbyterians on the other; And I am afraid the Government of *England* is at this time in danger of being Crucified between Two F---ls; Those who are for no Army at all, and those who are for All the Army. The First leaves Us Naked to Our Enemies, The Latter will Strip Us Naked of Our Friends: Our Author Plead's the Cause of the Former, and like a True Lawyer, has said All, and, in my Opinion, something more for his Client than the Case will bear; But after all, he must give me leave to have the same Opinion of his Book which he has of our Army, viz. That it is Dangerous and Useless; and I think it may be well Resembled to a Town Beau, for it is Nicely Dress'd, and Good for Nothing;

A .

And

And if I may come in for an End of *Latin, Materiam superavit Opus*: It is a Rhapsodie of Impracticables tending to Vex, Ruin, and Confound the Government, and leave us without Friends and Defence; and indeed he seems to be Describing both himself and his Book in the 17th Page; Where he says: *In the little Experience I have had in the World, I have Observ'd most Men to do as much Mischief as lay in their Power.* I take our Author to be one of those, and that his own Direction in the following Lines belongs to him, viz. *That he should be dealt with as Children and Madmen; from whom we take away all Weapons, by which they may do either themselves or others an Injury.* And Pens and Ink I take to be such Weapons as are not proper for those to be trusted with, who make no other Use of them than to besmear all who come in their reach. The whole Book is a Sermon from the same Text, upon which the Devil Preached to our Saviour in the Mount, *Cast thy self down, for it is written he will give his Angels Charge over thee;* &c. And I think no Man in his Wits can doubt this Text is as Maliciously intended now, as it was then: The Cloven Foot is stampt upon every Page of this Paper, and every

very Line is filled with Envy, Hatred, Malice, and all Uncharitableness, and like our Modern Stage Heroes, he slays both Friend and Foe. Sometimes in a Rage against the Mismanagements of Sea-Affairs, he tells us in the Preface, *They have cleared the Seas not of Pyrats, but of our own Merchants, &c.* There's for the Admiralty. Then for the Land-Forces, *Page 28.* those, he says, *Are Men of Dissolute and Debauch'd Principles, who make Murder their Profession, who enquire no farther into the Justice of the Cause, than how they shall be paid, who must be False, Rapacious, and Cruel in their own Defence.* Nay, he will not allow them Valiant neither, for in *Page 20.* he calls them, *Cudgelled Ragamuffins*; Our Ministers in *Page the 19th,* he terms, *Wretched Statesmen;* And in *Page the 5th,* he falls upon the Whigs, and calls them, *Valets de Chambre to Tyranny;* This indeed is so extravagant, that it puts me in mind of that *Latine Sentence* (*Sine aliquâ Dementiâ nullus Præbus.*) I am afraid our Author has had an ill Surgeon, who has left the Mercury in his Head; and yet at the same time his Blood appears so soure that it seems to require another Salivation. For the great Officers I do not wonder:

der : Perhaps our Author may desire to be a Minister, and takes this Method to make a Vacancy. But may I ask the Reason of this his so Mortal Quarrel to the Whigs in general (since he seems to Profess himself a Whig) May I know for which of their Good Deeds he throws Dirt at them ? Have not the Majority of them in this as well as the Two last Reigns maintained their Principles, Firmly and Boldly ? Were they not Disgraced upon this Account by a late Ministry, who would have only changed the K. and not the Administration ? Which, as H. K. merrily said, *Would have been a Change without an Alteration* : But to go farther, Did they shew themselves unreasonably Angry upon their Disgrace ? Did they join themselves with Jacobites, or Oppose the Government ? No, they Voted for Money, even, when those that hated them, and they hated, Ruled over them, and came into all the most easie and most effectual Ways of Raising it : And under that Ministry, was it not a Whig who (next to the Wind, for I would give every one their due) saved you at *Le Hogue* ; and as I remember, it was endeavoured to Disgrace him for doing it ? It was the Whigs, . who

who (tho under Discoultance) in all times
 of Danger firmly adhered to the Govern-
 ment ; and wherein they have deserved our
 Author's Anger since they came into the Mini-
 stry I am at a loss to find, - unless this be the
 Quarrel, That the Whigs desire to be safe from
 an Invasion : And that this is meerly from a
 Prudent Precaution, and no Base Compli-
 ance, I think, it is a want of Sence as well
 as want of Charity to doubt : For I never
 yet knew any Man for an Army, that either
 was not an Officer in it, or thought himself
 Unsafe without it. But perhaps our Author
 is of the Opinion of a Gentleman, who told
 me, He was for Whigs as Whigs were 15
 years ago ; But tho I am (as Poor Ayloff
 told Parker, when he was Bragging, That he
 would give Money to see any Man that durst
 own himself a Whig) *I am—a—Whig,*
 and I fancy as hearty a Whig as the Author,
 yet I must own I am not for being a Whig
 as Whigs were 15 years ago, that is, I am
 not for being Imprison'd, Fin'd, Whip'd,
 Pillory'd, and Hang'd, as Whigs were then,
 and as we may be again, if we come into
 our Author's Scheme : No, the Whigs will
 never think it reasonable to Disband the
 bravest

Bravest Troops that ever defended a Nation, Troops that have these Nine years been starving in strange Countreys for the Defence of their own ; That have eat no Bread but what they first sopp'd in their Blood, and scarce enough of that to keep them alive, 'till our Author and his Party have first provided some other way for our Defence ; They will not be such Knight Errants, as the Author, and like Don *Quixote*, engage themselves in Fight against a Wind-Mill, when they have so substantial a Point upon their Hands, as the Defending themselves against the Power of *France*. But let this Gentleman take what Liberties he pleases ; The Behaviour of the generality of the Whigs through this Reign will for ever stand Justified to all Honest and Indifferent Men : For, as I said before, Wherever the Pucklick appear'd concern'd, nor Frowns have Picqu'd 'em, nor Smiles Engaged 'em to its Injury. And the Author, in my Opinion, renders himself suspected by the Liberty he takes with the Reputation of others, for it is the Character of an Apostate fallen Angel, to be an Accuser of the Brethren. The next part of his Pamphlet is fill'd with absurd

absurd Positions in relation to the Disbanding our Army; and a new Scheme after the *Spartan* or *Switzer*, or ---- No matter what way.

But amongst all the Authors studied Periods, I think it necessary to handle only Two Points, which he pretends to maintain.

First; *That we are safe without an Army*; And,

Secondly, *That an Army is certain and sudden Slavery*.

The first is so Absurd, That I wonder any Human Creature can maintain it: For, when *France* has 300000 Regular Troops in Pay, Is it a proper Time then for *England* to leave it self Defenceless? When *France* is turning its Plowshares into Swords, is *England* to turn its Swords into Plowshares? When *France* (as all the Foreign Letters say) is watching to Entertain the Disbanded Troops of the Confederates into their Service; Is this a Time for us to Reform our Army? To Disband Troops, which have cost so much Time and Money to make them useful? Troops, which have procured you Glory abroad, and Peace at home; Troops, which in spight of the Power of

France,

France, and the Politicks of the Jesuits, have abated their Pride, and confounded their Devices : And does our Author think with a Pomp of Words, and some lamentable Ends of Latin and History, (like Sir *Formal Trifle* with his Oratory,) to catch a Parliament of *England* in his Mouse-trap of a Raw Militia ? Does he think to do that for the King of *France* and King *James* with a Dash of his Pen, which, as I said before, the greatest Skill and Force that ever was known in the World has failed in ? If he does, he has undoubtedly as good an Opinion (at least) of his Parts, as they deserve.

But then he comes to the second Point, That an Army is Dangerous, certain and sudden Slavery, &c. And to prove this, First, he gives a tedious Account of such Governments as have been enslaved by Armies ; The *Athenians* by *Bisistratus* ; the *Corinthians* by *Timophanes* ; the *Siracusians* by *Agathocles*, &c. And because some Countries have been Enslaved by Armies raised for their Defence, therefore no Country is to keep an Army, however necessary it may be to its Security. This I take to be so Foolish, that I think I do not answer it more

more foolishly, when I say, by the same Reason, a Man ought not to Eat, because some have been choaked with the Rump of a Capon ; I am no more a Friend to Armies than the Author ; but the Law of Nature teaches every Man to Embrace his own Security, and that Point alone makes me a Friend to an Army. Let the Author convince me, I am safe without an Army, and he shall need no Rhetorick to perswade me to part with it. But since, as he says in the 12th Page of his Book; that, *It is the Misfortune of all Countries, that they sometimes lie under an Unhappy Necessity to defend themselves by Arms.* When that is the Case, Give me leave to add, That it will not be Wisdom in any Country, to let foreign Jealousies take place of Immediate Danger ; but to sit down, and consider with the King in the Text, Whether with Ten Thousand we can meet him that comes with Twenty ; for we are told,

—*Vuguarded Innocence
Serves but to tempt the Powerful to Offence.*

If we are prepared to defend our selves, 'tis Ten to One if we ever be put to it ; and

to use our Author's own Words in Page the 12th, *That Nation is surest to live in Peace, which is most capable of making War;* and a Man that has a Sword by his Side, shall have least Occasion to make use of it. But then, says our Author, this Force must be your Fleet, and Militia : To the first, I do tell you, notwithstanding your Merriment in Page the 19th, That such a Wind may happen, as may keep you in Port, when it is at the same time favourable to the Enemy. Suppose Admiral R. had not taken the Opportunity of that Tide by which he got into the *Downes* against the Advice of all the Pilots; What would have become of your *Media Insuperabiles Unda*? As I take it, this well-sounding Sentence, would not have saved us. For God's sake, what hindered the Descent from *Le Hogue*? What that from *Calais*? but contrary Winds; And if you have no Army to oppose them when they Land, what shall hinder them from Invading you, from *Dunkirk*, *Calais*, *St. Malo*, *Brest*, &c. For an *Irish* Man will instruct you, That a Fleet cannot be here and there too, (unless it were at Bird;) and besides, we have more than once seen *French* Squadrions.

drons go in and out of their Harbours, tho' our Fleets have laid before them. And in the Revolution, Did not our present King pass the Channel, notwithstanding there was a Fleet sufficient to have destroyed him at the same time at Sea, and in spight of them Land his Army in safety : And why may not the same Trick be played again by any other ? And what then ? Why then, like Queen *Elizabeth*, the King is to get on Horseback at the Head of the Trained-Bands and Militia, and away for *Tilbury* : And does any Man in his Wits think, that such a Rabble could either have defended that Queen then, or would protect us now, against Disciplined Troops ? No, I am afraid, had the *Spanish* Army landed, the poor Queen, for all her Militia, would have had occasion to have repeated the Sentence of *Latin*; she made use of, when she was carried Prisoner to the Tower, (*Tanquam ovis.*)

Believe me, Sir, she was not saved by Fleets, nor Militia, but by a *Standing Army*, even by the Army of the Lord of Hosts, who came to her Rescue (as the Prophet says) in *Storms* and *Tempests*, and a terrible

Whirlwind. And I doubt not, if the French had not been disappointed more by Heaven, than Human Means, our Author himself would have been convinced too late, what a miserable Defence, a Raw Militia is capable of making against Regular Troops. Under such a Protection as this, we should indeed have occasion with the Sheep in *Boccalin*, (which the Author mentions in Page the 18th) to pray to *Apollo*; *That the French Wolves may not be suffered to have Teeth.* But whilst they are to keep their Teeth, I do not doubt every wise and honest Man will think fit to submit to the Necessity of an Army; Let our Author give it the Bugbear Epithete of *Tyrant*, or what else he pleases: For if we are only to depend upon Militia for our Safety, I think we shall have Reason to say in the Words of *St. Paul* concerning the Resurrection, *Then are we of all Men most miserable.* The Forty Millions we have spent in the War will be in vain, the Three Hundred Thousand Lives we have lost will be in vain; nay, and this Glorious Peace, which we have purchased at so dear a Rate, will be in vain: But says our Author, the Militia shall be made useful; and to this pur-

pose in Page the 21st, he gives you a Schenie made out of *Whys* and *Wherefores*. To this I shall be able to give him my Opinion more clearly, when I see such a Militia. But in the mean time, if I am able to prove from the Authors own Words, That the present Army differs little from a Militia made useful, I hope our Dispute may end.

Our Author, in Page the 22d, composes his Militia of the Nobility and Gentry of *England* for Officers, and the Body of the Army to be Freeholders, their Sons and Servants, which, he tells us, *May always be trusted with the Defence of the Lives, Liberties, and Estates of their Country, and that there can be no Danger from such an Army.*

Now, that the present *English* Army is exactly thus composed, I think, is not to be denied: And why this Militia thus made useful by Nine Years Service, and after infinite Hazards and Hardships, should not, at the end of the War, be trusted with the Defence of *their Country at Home*, which they with such Bravery and Fidelity defended abroad, I must confess, I cannot find a Convincing Reason for, out of all our Author's Learned and Florid Arguments: Tho' he comes

comes upon us with a notable smart Sentence in Page the 17th; '*Tis as certain, says he, that an Army will raise Money, as that Money will raise an Army.*' This is a pretty Jingle of Words I own, and that's all that's in it; for Pray, how did Cromwell's Army raise Money; I fancy they did not raise much, because I find, that he sent a great part of them a Goldfinding to the *West-Indies*; and I think, he need not have sent so far for it, if he could have raised it by his Army at home. But the Truth of the Matter is, This was an Army of *English* Militia, composed according to the Author's Model of *English Gentry, and Relations or Servants of Freeholders*. And let who will Govern, if the Army be composed of such, they will, I dare say, always go along with the Inclinations of the Majority of the People; this I am sure of, they have done so hitherto: No, says our Author, Page the 28th, *Cromwell's Army expelled the Parliament, under whom they had fought successfully many Years; afterwards under General Monk they des royd the Government they had before set up, and brought in K. Charles the Second very well:* This, if I don't mistake, proves my Assertion, viz. That

a *Militia Officer'd by English Gentlemen, and composed of the Relations and Servants of Freeholders,* will always give into the Opinion and Inclination of the Majority of the People of *England*; For now the Majority of the People of *England* being weary of the Rump, the Army grew weary of them too, and turn'd them out; And the Majority of the People of *England* having an Inclination to Restore K. *Charles*, the Army joined in this Inclination too, and brought him in.

It may be our Author may say, that they only obeyed the Pleasures of their General in both these; I deny that, for then *Lambert's* Army had more reason to have stood by their General, being twice the number of *Monks*; But it is plain the Nation being inclined to favour the Revolution then designed by *Monk*, the Army Revolted from *Lambert* to *Monk*, in concert with the Nation: Nor did the Revolt of K. *James's* Army proceed from any other Cause, than the general Dissatisfaction of the People: So that I see no cause so far to apprehend this Raw Head and Bloody Bones, The Army, as to leave our selves Defenceless against

a Foreign Force from any present fear of them : And till this great General has perfected his new Levies, I desire we may continue the old.

I own I am afraid of tempting our new Friend to break the Peace, (which I fancy nothing but Disbanding the Army can endanger) for I would willingly enjoy the remainder of my days free from Frights of French Invasions ; And I must confess I should wonder to find any *Englishman*, who is in his Wits, of another Mind : Nor do I believe that even our Author thinks what he says ; But I fancy he may be a Member of the new Sect called *Squalers*, a sort of Men who (as a Gentleman wittily said) are always pretending to be in a fright, because they think they squall agreeably ; and Write and Talk as great Monarks make War, only for their Glory : A thing which few find, who too eagerly seek it, and when it is found 'tis worth nothing.

Upon the whole Matter, if it be so, as I think, by what has been said, it plainly appears, that an Army composed of *English* Nobility, Gentlemen, and Freeholders, have always gone with the Sentiments of the Majority

iority of the People, even to the abandoning and giving up of their Masters and Generals, as I have already shewed you in the Case of *Lambert* and *K. James*: If *K. Charles*, who was the Darling of all, that did not thoroughly know him, durst not try the Trick, and *K. James* suffered so severely for it when he did ; I can see no reason to be so apprehensive of our present Army, as to run the Hazard of a Foreign Conquest by Disbanding it, for fear of being Conquered by it at Home : And if this Army be carefully provided with Officers of known Affection to the Government, paid by the Parliament, and continued from year to year, they will then be a Parliament Army, and standing only upon their good Behaviour from year to year ; They will, as the Text says, *Take heed lest they fall* : And the Case being thus stated, -I must own, I see no Reason against their standing, especially till our Author has put his Scheme of *Why's* and *Wherefore's* into Practice : And, I am afraid, when he has done his best, his Militia will prove a Guard only fit to defend his Commonwealths of *Oceana* and *Utopia*; Where alone, I fancy, he will be fit to Govern.

But after all, if any other sort of Militia shall happen to be made useful ; Or the Affairs abroad shall be reduced to such a Posture as to lessen our Apprehensions ; I shall heartily give my Vote for Disbanding ; for, as I said before, I am not fonder of an Army than the Author, when it is not absolutely necessary to our Preservation ; Which at this time, I must beg leave to think it is, in spight of this Gentleman's mighty force of Eloquence, with which he endeavours to overwhelm his Reader.

But I hope this All-sufficient Author will not be able to possess the Minds of honest and true *Englishmen*, and that he who hath delivered us from the Paw of the Lyon and the Bear, will also deliver us from the powerful Pen of this Mighty *Goliath* ; this Uncircumcised *Philistine*.

F. I N I S.



